(b) if so, the terms of reference;

(c) whether a report has been submitted to BICP;

(d) if so, details of each of its findings;

(e) the names of each bottler from whom information was sought by BICP; and

(f) the details of information sought and the information provided by these bottlers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY): (a) No. Cost price study on the soft drink industry through BICP was commissioned during the last two years.

(b) to (f) In view (a) above, does not arise. However, BICP had undertaken a study in respect of certain products including soft drinks during 1995-96 to ascertain whether Excise Duty concessions announced in the Union Budget of 1995-96 were passed on to the consumers or not.

बिहार में खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग

2064. **श्री नागमणि :** क्या खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) बिहार में इस समय कार्यरत खाद्य प्रसंस्करणों उद्योगों की संख्या कितनी है ;

(ख) क्या सरकार इस राज्य में और अधिक खाद्य प्रसंस्करण एकक स्थापित करने का विचार रखती है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो कब तक और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री दिलीप राय) : (क) खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग संगठित और असंगठित दोनों क्षेत्रों में है । इसलिए बिहार राज्य में खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योगों की संख्या के बारे में सूचना केन्द्रीय रूप से नहीं रखी जाती । उद्योगों के वार्षिक सर्वेक्षण (1993-94) के अनुसार बिहार राज्य में खाद्य उत्पाद तथा पेय बनाने वाली 451 फैक्टरियां थीं ।

(ख) और (ग) मंत्रालय स्वयं किसी राज्य में किसी खाद्य प्रसंस्करण यूनिट की स्थापना नहीं करती । वैसे मंत्रालय अपनी योजना स्कीमों के तहत खाद्य प्रसंस्करण यूनिटों की स्थापना । विस्तार/आधुनिकीकरण के लिए राज्य सरकार के संगठनों आदि को वित्तीय सहायता देता है ।

Potential for fruits and vegetables processing industries in Maharashtra

2065. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Maharashtra despite having great potential for fruits and vegetables processing industries does not have much impact in this sector in the State;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to boost these industries in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY): (a) Fruits and Vegetables processing industry in Maharashtra has the highest installed, capacity amounting to 17.77 per cent of the total installed capacity in the country, although, the percentage of fruits and vegetables produced in the State is about 6.88 per cent.

(b) and (c) The constraints faced by the industry have been non-availability of suitable varieties of fruits and vegetables at reasonable price, short period of availability, high cost of raw-material